

ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method and a device for detecting the degree of pollution in an operational converter. According to the invention, the operating condition of at least one of the converter components that is exposed to the ambient air is determined and a corresponding operating condition of said component in an unpolluted state is determined. The two operating conditions are then compared and the calculated comparison value is used as a measurement for the degree of pollution of the converter. The inventive method for detecting the degree of pollution of an operational converter permits a reduction of the number of breakdowns as a result of a non-protected operating mode of a converter and of the associated disadvantages such as costs and damage to a company's image.